

**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE EV33294441US
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Attorney Docket No.: P50523-C3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant: | Marquis et al. | Date of Response: | February 25, 2004 |
| Cont. of Serial No.: | 09/836,586 | Previous Group Art Unit: | 1624 |
| Filed: | Herewith | Previous Examiner: | T. Truong |
| For: | INHIBITORS OF CYSTEINE PROTEASE | | |

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following amendments and remarks into the record.

Amendments to the Specification are shown on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 38 of this paper.